GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4786
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
PARKING LAND FOR SABARIMALA PILGRIMS
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Kerala Government for the sufficient land at Sabarimala, Pampa and Chalakkayam for the parking and Virivaipp for the Sabarimala pilgrims;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action in this matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d) The Central Government, under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, has received few proposals from Kerala Government for diverting forest land to meet the requirement of parking and Virivaipp for the Sabarimala pilgrims. The approvals of the Central Government have been accorded for developing base camps in Pathnamthitta district. Besides these, diversion of forest land has also been approved for accommodating the needs of civic amenities, roads and medical facilities, etc. Even, certain forest land in Periyar Tiger Reserve has been diverted for providing other necessary facilities.